



REPORTER

Preaching the Gospel in the
Russian Language since 1946

The 75th Anniversary of our 1st Radio Broadcast is Coming Up!

"...Contend for the faith that was once for all delivered to the saints." (Jude 1: 3 ESV).

These words can be fully applied to the ministry of Earl Nikolayevich Poysti. Diligently, every week, year after year, his voice proclaimed the Gospel in the Russian language as it sounded from the speakers of radio receivers all across the former Soviet Union, penetrating deep into the hearts of the listeners, and we and our relatives were witnesses of this.



We would like to publish your personal, vivid memories of what the Lord did, using the radio sermons of Earl Poysti in your life, or in the lives of your family. Please write to us to share your stories; we would be very grateful.

Here's a letter from one of our early listeners:

"I got acquainted with you through the radio. Let me briefly tell you about myself. After graduating from university, I taught chemistry, but never held the Bible in my hands, never thought about God. But under the influence of your sermons, my atheism began to burst at the seams. Everything that I have lived for until now has lost its meaning for me. I try to pray." Lidia Z., Alma-Ata, Kazakhstan

We're looking forward to hearing from many of you!

- Alexander Zakharov, Executive Director of RCR in Russia



In August of this year we will be celebrating the 75th anniversary of the beginning of RCR – our first radio broadcast was aired in August, 1946.



Ministry of *The Gospel Behind Barbed Wire* Magazine



Brothers in the Novosibirsk prison

For more than 25 years Russian Christian Radio has been publishing the magazine *The Gospel Behind Barbed Wire* – 155 issues so far! Over the years, the magazine has gained a lot of readers both in prisons and at large. People read it in home groups, churches, hospitals, and schools! It is a faithful assistant in the ministry, bringing good news to prisoners, their relatives, and even evangelism to prison officials.

Each issue of the magazine is devoted to a specific topic, examining one or another aspect of our lives through the truth of the Word of God. Most of the

materials are taken from the letters of readers, and relate to their lives, which is why this publication is so valuable to them. People share their sorrows and joys with the editorial board and each other, praise God in poems and personal testimonies, communicate their needs, respond to requests for help and prayer, and spiritually support each other in correspondence.

Today we are all going through difficult times. The pandemic has affected all places of detention – many prisons are closed to ministers, but not to the magazine. Our little paper “missionary” hurries to the reader with consolation and spiritual advice; the door is open for him! Through the magazine, the Lord visits all the correctional institutions of the former Soviet Union and Russian-speaking prisoners around the world. Our magazine is received in Ukraine, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Greece, Germany, the USA and other countries.



This woman distributes the magazine in the hospital in the Novosibirsk region.



Issue #155



Alexey F. (above, on the left) distributes magazines in the Rostov region.

The largest libraries in Russia also receive our magazine. We take our publication to the “Book Chamber” of Russia, and from there the magazine goes to the libraries of the country.

Praise the Lord that He sends friends and donors who regularly support and pray for the publication and distribution of this magazine, which reaches so many for Christ.

- Eduard Zavedeyev, Director of the Prison Magazine Ministry

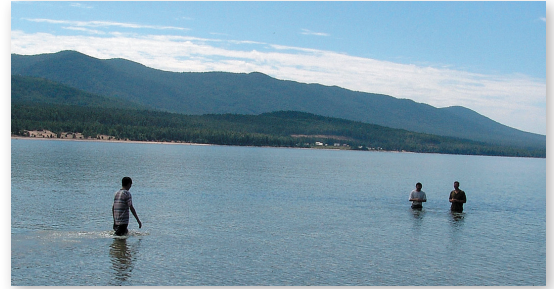


Eduard Zavedeyev at the “Book Chamber”

RCR Studio Ministry



“At the age of 16, I thought very seriously about my faith after I heard the question: ‘Do you have the Holy Spirit?’ This question made me think hard, which led to changes in my life. A year later I consciously and with great joy was baptized in Lake Baikal in 2010. Hearing one word or phrase can change a person’s life and turn him to God. I am sure you are familiar with this and something similar has happened in your own life.” – *Ayur Vanzhilov, Director of RCR Studio*



In the ministry of the RCR Studio, our calling is to teach people about God’s love and power through video programs. Here are some recent examples of how we can help.



Soslan and Dmitry

We recently responded to nearly 30 comments from Muslims under one of the testimonies. This number of comments suggests that over 10,000 Muslims have watched this video!

At the end of last year, a viewer who was not a believer, Dmitry, saw Soslan’s testimony on our channel, and wrote to us on WhatsApp. He wanted to change his life and asked for Soslan’s phone number so he could come visit with him personally. We helped Dmitry and Soslan to connect, and as a result, Dmitry went to a rehabilitation program in a Christian help center in Vladikavkaz. Praise God! This is one example of how a word you hear can prompt you to take concrete action in your search for God!

Another viewer, Irina, called us in early February and thanked us for our videos which she could use in her ministry. Irina is a former researcher at the Institute of Psychiatry. Today she helps the most vulnerable segments of the population – orphans and homeless people. They are greatly helped by the stories of people in the CHOICE program with a similar past, but whom Jesus Christ saved! Some of those whom Irina helped will soon be recording their own testimonies in our studio with Natalia Chernyakova. Praise the Lord!



Nadezhda, a missionary from Chukotka, also came to visit us in February. Nadezhda grew up in a Christian family in California, but God led her through incredibly difficult circumstances and called her to serve in the most northeast region of Russia – in Chukotka. We are happy to share such amazing stories to inspire Christians to dedicated service to God, to inspire them to fulfill the wonderful plan God has for each of us.

In addition to testimonies, we produce many other programs with pastors – topics about premarital relationships, the fulfillment of messianic prophecies, the Old Testament feasts, etc., but through each video we strive to say only one thing in different ways and for different people – to make Jesus Christ known and proclaim the love of God the Father. Our videos are on the YouTube RCR-Videos channel (in Russian).

It is a great blessing to be in God’s calling! Each of the employees of the RCR Studio is aware of this. God gives joy and strength to serve. And of course we are inspired by your support and prayers, dear friends! We ask you to tell your acquaintances, relatives, and everyone else about us. It is also through you that God provides the financial needs of the ministry. The RCR Studio currently has one big and important need, **\$7500 for new cameras**, which we also mentioned in our Frontline prayer letters. If you can help with this we would greatly appreciate it. We believe that everything is possible through joint efforts and faith.



KONSTANTIN LOCTIONOV - God shows His incredible love for me!



My name is Konstantin, and I am 25 years old. I was born in the town of Zheleznogorsk, Kursk region. Now I am at the Rumyantsevo Pirkko Home going through their recovery/rehab program. I got here for obvious reasons. I grew up in a decent family, my stepfather worked as a doctor, and my mother was a housewife with a disability. From the age of 10, my stepfather constantly took me with him to an Orthodox church. So, as a teenager, I began to be involved in a religious lifestyle. At the age of 12, I was enrolled in an Orthodox school. At the same time, like many boys, I started playing soccer on a city team.

Over time, playing sports began to appeal to me more than religious life. I didn't like it that they pushed morals about spiritual life on me, and it was boring. It seemed to me that my parents did it on purpose so that I would not have time to go out with friends, and instead have to spend all my free days under the pressure of their teaching. Soon I decided to sign up for boxing and quit the Orthodox school. As you might suspect, when I made my, as I now understand, wrong choice, the consequences were not long in coming. After training sessions, the guys and I began to drink alcoholic beverages and smoke hashish.

At that time I was 16 years old. I believed that I was already an adult, and was ready to make decisions about life myself, without parental advice, and even more, without spiritually religious advice. Of course, with that kind of attitude, I did not see how I was beginning to kill myself. I stopped noticing the concern of my parents. Two years later, unbeknownst to myself, I was completely at the mercy of drugs. At the age of 20, grief struck our family – my stepfather died. But I did not see this as a reason for me to stop this way of life; on the contrary, it only made it worse. I started to engage in criminal activities – to steal.

Over time, my mother began to attend church meetings, where her old friend Oleg was the pastor. When she came home from the church service, she continually told me how blessed she felt there. She noted kind people, people who care, and singing songs, reciting poetry, and what they said about God. All these words worried me, but did not attract me. And over time, I ended up where thieves and drug addicts go, if they did not already find themselves in the cemetery. It was a maximum security prison. While there, I periodically called my mother, and she constantly told me about the church. Every time, she said that after my release, I had to come to the church meeting and see everything with my own eyes. A year passed, and I was freed; and the first thing I began to desire was what I had done before my conviction – to drink, inject drugs, steal and hang out with friends.

But after about ten days, walking away from another party, I thought, "is it really going to continue like this?" And suddenly a thought came to me, I remembered that my mother once told me about Christian rehabilitation / "liberation" centers. Now I understand that was God's intervention in the situation. I decided to come and confess everything to her: what I did, how I lived, what I used, and added that I wanted to go to such a center. She was so surprised! She immediately phoned the pastor and asked him to help organize my trip to the center. So I waited for two days, since it was a Friday, and on Sunday I went to the church service. After the service I was brought to the Rumyantsevo Pirkko Home, the center in the Moscow region.

Now I have been in the center for more than three months, and a month ago I made the decision to turn to the Lord in a prayer of repentance. Now, I see how the Lord is changing my life. I don't want to inject drugs, drink, use foul language, but instead I want to help everyone, read the Bible, and I began to write poetry about God! I am amazed at God's grace and how it changes me. I am astonished that now I have such deep thoughts about God, about His word, how powerful God is, and how He shows His incredible love for me!

I am grateful to God and those who did not give up on me – my mother and the church who prayed for me! I am grateful to the brothers in the center, they help me and disciple me, showing me how to live practically according to God's word. Thanks be to God!

Friends, please pray for Konstantin, since he is a new believer, that he will stay strong and grow in his faith.



Nodari, Konstantin, and Ruslan
at Rumyantsevo Pirkko Home

